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SENATE MEMORIAL 46

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Phil A. Griego

A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN HISTORIC EL CAMINO REAL IN COLFAX AND MORA COUNTIES AS A PUBLIC HIGHWAY PROVIDING ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS, AND REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND ITS AGENCIES TO JOIN IN THAT SUPPORT.

WHEREAS, in 1905 the thirty-sixth legislative assembly enacted Laws 1905, Chapter 7, Section 1, establishing a public highway through the territory of New Mexico to be known as "El Camino Real", which had as its northern terminus a point in the Raton mountains on the state line border between the territory of New Mexico and the state of Colorado, and as its southern terminus the town of Anthony on the state line between the territory of New Mexico and the state of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the cited law has remained in effect without change since its enactment and is compiled today as Section

. 146051. 1

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1 67-9-2 NMSA 1978; and

2 WHEREAS, over the many years of its existence El Camino
3 Real has provided public travel in and access to parts of
4 Colfax and Mora counties, including state-owned land in the
5 White Peak area that was open to the public for recreational
6 use; and

7 WHEREAS, during years of use, parts of El Camino Real in
8 Colfax and Mora counties acquired state highway designation as
9 state road 21 and state road 199; and

10 WHEREAS, several years ago a private landowner owning land
11 adjacent to the roadway blocked it off, thereby cutting off the
12 above described public access; and

13 WHEREAS, citizens of the area originally commenced efforts
14 to reopen the historic road to the public and were later and
15 are now assisted by the attorney general in litigation to
16 accomplish this;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
18 OF NEW MEXICO that the appropriate departments, agencies,
19 boards and commissions of the executive branch be requested and
20 encouraged to support the ongoing efforts to maintain public
21 travel on and access by El Camino Real to areas historically
22 served by this public highway; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the governor, the state highway and
25 transportation department, the commissioner of public lands and

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the state game commission.